

Program, jointly sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Atomic Energy Commission, and administered by the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies. The "traveling teachers" were supported by the NSF and the AEC during the first two years of the program. Seven teachers were selected for the 1956-57 school year and ten for 1957-58. It is the Institute's plan to increase the number to 22 for the 1958-59 school year, with seven teachers to be supported by the Foundation, and 15 to be supported by individual states with NSF-AEC assistance. The Foundation-sponsored teachers will visit schools in several states, while the state-sponsored teachers will confine their visits to schools within their respective state boundaries. The chosen teachers will participate in a three-month training program at Oak Ridge that will include attending a one-month summer institute for secondary-school science teachers. Several other states are now attempting to work out arrangements to sponsor traveling teacher programs during the coming year.

A Department of Nuclear Engineering is to be established on July 1 in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology School of Engineering at Cambridge, Mass. Classes will be open to undergraduates having the necessary prerequisites in physics, mathematics, and engineering, but the department will only award graduate degrees. MIT's \$2.64 million research reactor, which is to be completed this spring, will serve as the main laboratory facility. Manson Benedict, professor of nuclear engineering, will head the department; other members include Theos J. Thompson, who directed the design and construction of the MIT reactor, Irving Kaplan, Edward A. Mason, Melville Clark, Jr., and Gordon Brownell. In addition to classes at Cambridge, nuclear engineering students may attend the Engineering Practice School conducted by MIT at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Among the special noncredit courses to be offered during the 1958 summer session at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is an intensive two-week program on the *Physics of Infrared Radiation* (July 14-25). Offered by the Spectroscopy Laboratory and the Naval Supersonic Laboratory at MIT, it is designed particularly for research scientists. Admission to the course (tuition, \$300) will be restricted to those holding at least a bachelor's degree. Further information may be obtained from Dr. Richard C. Lord, Director of the Spectroscopy Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge 39, Mass.

Another special MIT summer program designed for teachers, research workers, and development engineers is on *Modern Developments in Heat Transfer* (July 8-18). This course will cover fundamental concepts of heat transfer processes as well as recent developments. Tuition is \$250. Those wishing to participate should contact Dr. Warren M. Rohsenow at the MIT Department of Mechanical Engineering.

A basic course in *Principles of Radioisotope Utilization* (July 14-25) will require a knowledge of elementary physics, chemistry, and mathematics, but will as-

sume no previous knowledge of radioisotope techniques. Tuition is \$250 and information is available from Dr. Gordon L. Brownell at MIT.

A program is planned mainly for research workers in the field of Microwave Ferrites (August 4-15). Tuition is \$250 and Dr. Hermann A. Haus of the MIT Department of Electrical Engineering is in charge.

New Advisory Plan for NBS

A basic revision in the structure of the National Bureau of Standards advisory committee program has been announced by the Bureau and the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council. Under the new arrangement, a number of the major professional scientific organizations of the United States will nominate representatives to serve as advisers to the Bureau. From the base provided by these delegations, the NAS-NRC will assemble several advisory panels, each of which will be responsible for evaluating a particular segment of the Bureau's work. Thus, certain NBS activities (such as building technology, which does not fall within the scope of any single society) can now be served by advisory panels staffed from various societies. At least once a year the panels will report on the status of Bureau activities under their cognizance, thus providing the basis for an integrated annual report by the NAS-NRC to the Bureau.

The NBS technical advisory committee program grew out of recommendations made in October 1953 by an ad hoc committee (composed of representatives of the American Institute of Physics and six other leading scientific organizations) which had been formed at the request of the Secretary of Commerce to evaluate the Bureau's functions and operations. The Bureau and its director had been under attack for having refused to endorse the claims of a manufacturer who maintained in the face of evidence to the contrary that his product, a packaged mixture of medicinal salts, was capable of rejuvenating storage batteries and prolonging their useful life expectancy. The ad hoc committee, headed by M. J. Kelly, conducted a thorough review of the Bureau's scientific program and came to the conclusion that the NBS staff was doing a thoroughly competent job in spite of an inadequate budget. Increases in the Bureau's operating funds were recommended, and it was proposed that each of the prominent scientific societies establish a technical advisory committee that would meet periodically with NBS personnel to review relevant aspects of the Bureau's technical program.

Since that time, advisory committees appointed by various societies have helped to keep the Bureau informed of the needs of the nation's scientific and technological community and have evaluated the Bureau's work in areas of interest to their professions. They have also provided an effective link whereby the scientists and engineers of the country have gained increased awareness of the scientific contributions and services available from the Bureau. The new plan for conducting these advisory activities will strengthen the

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The proceedings of the Conference sponsored by the A.P.S., A.I.E.E., A.I.M.M.E., I.R.E., and O.N.R., held November 18-21, 1957 have been reproduced in a special issue of the JOURNAL OF APPLIED PHYSICS, March, 1958. The issue contains approximately 375 pages of invited and contributed papers, letters, and comments.

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current program by allowing more complete coverage of the Bureau's diversified research activities and by providing for better coordination of recommendations from the various professional interests which the Bureau serves.

Initial nominations of advisory representatives will be made from the American Institute of Physics, the American Chemical Society, the Institute of Radio Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Ceramic Society, the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The Policy Committee for Mathematics will nominate individuals from the various professional mathematics societies.

Publications

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences has announced that it is making its new quarterly journal *Daedalus* available to the public as well as to the elected fellows of the Academy. *Daedalus*, under the editorship of Philip Rieff, is to be "a medium through which leading scholars in all fields can address one another". Emphasis will be given to a particular area of knowledge in each issue—the humanities, sciences, social studies, or public affairs. The Winter issue includes nine papers on the topic "Science and the Modern World View—Toward a Common Understanding of Sciences and the Humanities" which were originally presented at a conference in Cambridge, Mass., in 1956. The conference, sponsored by the Academy, the Institute for the Unity of Science, and the National Science Foundation, honored two physicists, P. W. Bridgman and Philipp Frank, on the occasion of their retirement from the teaching staff of Harvard University. In terms of their subjects the nine papers are arranged chronologically. The theme of the first three is "On the Interaction of the Sciences and Humanities", and concerns the rise of science in the seventeenth century and its subsequent effect on the Age of Enlightenment. The second group of three papers has as its theme "Modern Science and the Basic Concepts of Our Present World View". The third group considers the future relationship of science and the humanities in "Prospects for a New Synthesis". All communications concerning the journal should be addressed to the editor, Philip Rieff, AAAS, 280 Newton St., Brookline Station, Boston 46, Mass. The US subscription rate is \$6.50 a year; single copies are \$1.75.

Under a National Science Foundation contract, the Maxwell Research Center of Syracuse University has compiled a *Directory of Independent Commercial Laboratories Performing Research and Development, 1957* (NSF 57-40). The directory is an outgrowth of the Foundation-sponsored study, also conducted by Syracuse University, the report of which was published in 1956 under the title *Research and Development by Nonprofit Research Institutes and Commercial Labo-*

ratories, 1953. The directory lists 565 laboratories, together with names of senior officers, numbers of research staff, and types of research activities. Copies may be purchased for 40 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

A weekly report of Soviet bloc activities in connection with the International Geophysical Year is being published in English by the Office of Technical Services. The reports contain information selected and translated from foreign-language publications regarding artificial earth satellites and research in meteorology, oceanography, seismology, glaciology, and other subjects. Prepared primarily for the information of US Government scientists, the reports are being published by OTS for the benefit of nongovernment scientists who may subscribe to the series for \$10. The series runs from February 14, 1958, to January 2, 1959. The reports (PB 131632, *Soviet Bloc International Geophysical Year Information*) may be ordered from OTS, US Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C. Back issues to February 14 will be supplied to subscribers regardless of the date of their order.

The names of two monthly publications of the Library of Congress have been changed. The publication formerly known as the *Monthly List of Russian Accessions* is now the *Monthly Index of Russian Accessions* (available from the US Government Printing Office for \$12 a year; \$15 abroad) and the *East European Accessions List* has become the *East European Accessions Index* (available from GPO at \$10 a year; \$12.50 abroad). In announcing the title changes, the Library emphasized the fact that the two publications are not merely "booklists" but that they contain information about the contents of new Russian and East European books and articles. Each index gives, in English, a monthly account of new material, much of which is scientific, received from the USSR and East Europe by the Library of Congress and by other US research libraries.

Officers

As a result of recent elections, the executive committee of the American Physical Society Division of Solid-State Physics for 1958-59 is constituted as follows: chairman, J. C. Slater; vice chairman, C. Her-ring; past chairman, S. L. Quimby; secretary-treasurer, E. Burstein (Code 6435, US Naval Research Laboratory, Washington 25, D. C.); members-at-large, W. Kohn, J. Pellam, W. T. Read, C. G. Shull, C. Slichter, and D. Turnbull.

The American Physical Society Division of High-Polymer Physics has elected for the 1958-59 term the following officers: chairman, Edwin R. Fitzgerald; vice chairman, Bruno H. Zimm; secretary-treasurer, W. James Lyons (Textile Research Institute, Princeton, N. J.). John Rehner and Prof. Fitzgerald were elected to three-year terms on the Executive Committee.